

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WHITE HOUSE SUPPORT STAFF
25X1

FLD
384
129

Date: May 28, 1974

Item No.: WH #1

CIA/OCI

WHIZWH 740528

DIRECTOR: WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: CAMBODIA--THE MILITARY SITUATION

25X1

Sharp fighting developed southeast of Phnom Penh over the weekend as Cambodian Army 2nd Division units attempted to dislodge Khmer Communist forces from positions between the Bassac and Mekong rivers. North of the capital, elements of the Army's 7th Division continued their advance along Route 5, overrunning an insurgent command post and killing 33 Communists. Government forces at nearby Lovek continued to make limited gains in expanding their southern and eastern defensive perimeters,

25X1

Farther afield, government defenders at the provin-

Cont'd

25X1

cial capitals of Kompong Thom and Prey Veng continue to counter insurgent initiatives. In the far southwest, however, insurgent ground attacks have forced government troops into a constricted perimeter at the Route 4 garrison town of Kompong Seila.

The government, meanwhile, has successfully completed the evacuation of some 8,000 civilians and 1,150 troops from the besieged garrison at Bannak, 75 miles northwest of Phnom Penh. The Bannak evacuees were relocated to the town of Krakor on Route 5, against no opposition. The Bannak garrison had been under siege since late January. Its abandonment eliminates the last significant government position west of Route 5 in the Pursat area.